Abolition of Entertainment Channels

920. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the finding of a recent survey that 75 per cent of school children spend 3 to 4 hours each day for watching television programmes;

(b) in view of the serious implication of such a State of affairs, the measures Government propose to take to discourage television viewing by children during school hours; and

(c) whether the abolition of the so called entertainment channels is being considered in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Press reports to this effect have come to the notice of the Government.

(b) Doordarshan have recently reduced the number of feature films telecast in the Afternoon on the week days on the Metro Channels. Nevertheless, regulation of the exposure of children to television can only be under taken by their parents guardian and not by the Government.

(c) No, Sir.

Setting up of New TV Transmitters in the Country

921. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set-up new low/high power TV transmission centres in the country during the Eigth Five Year Plan period;

(b) if so, the amount allocated for the purpose, State-wise;

(c) whether Government have selected sites for setting up of these centres in the States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO) (a) Yes, Sir. Transmitters of varying power are under implementation/ envisaged to be set up in the country during the Eigth Plan.

(b) whereas funds for setting up of TV Projects in the country are not allocated State-wise, a sum of Rs.718.98 crores has been earmarked for transmission facilities during the Eigth Plan.

(c) and (d) Selection of sites for TV projects is the country in an annual exercise. While some of the sites have already been taken over, action has been initiated for selection of suitable sites for the remaining TV projects which have been formally approved under annual Plans 1992-93 and 1993-94.

आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन नेटवर्क का विस्तार

922. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी** : क्या **सूचना और प्रसारण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने देश में विशेष रूप से पश्चिम क्षेत्र में आकाशवाणी और दूरदर्शन नेटवर्क प्रसारण और सभी सूचना प्रचार माध्यमों का विस्तार करने के लिए कोई योजना तैयार की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इस योजना के कार्यान्वयन पर कितनी धनराशि खर्च किये जाने का अनुमान है; और

(घ) सरकार को देश के पश्चिमी क्षेत्रों की राज्य सरकारों से अब तक कितने प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुए हैं?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० पी० सिंह देव): (क) और (ग) जी, हां। अकाशवाणी के पास अपने नेटवर्क के विस्तार हेतु लगभग 117 करोड़ रुपए की अनुमानित पूंजीगत लागत पर 131 स्कीमें कार्यान्वयनाधीन/परिकल्पित हैं, जिनमें से